

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

WOODSTOCK, VERMONT

The People's Rights—A Representative Democracy—The Union and the Constitution Without Any Infractions.

VOL. XLV. NO. 36. WHOLE NO. 4310

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1909.

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE
Woodstock, Vermont.

Printed Saturday Morning
ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

WOODSTOCK NEWS.

Edward M. Brown, son of the late Col. E. M. Brown, a former editor of The Age, was in town Monday, accompanied by his wife. He has been visiting relatives in Hartland and Hartford, but finds few acquaintances here after an absence of nearly forty years. He was born in the house now occupied by W. S. Hewitt, living here until he was about six years old. About the first man whom he hunted up was Joseph Bean, Jr., who pulled Mr. Brown out of the water when the latter as a youngster fell into the South Branch while fishing. As Joe tells the story he fished him out just in time to save his life. Mr. Brown has been in the railway mail service for the past 33 years, running on the Northern Pacific between St. Paul and Jamestown, North Dakota. His mother, who is now 87 years of age, is living in the west with another son.

Dr. G. H. Spiller, optician, will be at J. C. Nutting's in Woodstock August 17, instead of the 14th as before announced.

Mrs. R. L. Lermund of Northampton, Mass., who has been visiting Mrs. Manger, her grandmother, went to Windsor Monday. Her daughter accompanied her.

The village trustees have put up a notice at Central and High streets warning automobilists to "go slow." The notice would be of more effect in protecting that corner if it were posted further up the street, say, on the bridge. Now it can not be easily read, even if observed, until the automobilist has reached the danger point at that intersection.

A reissue of pension has been allowed John W. Peirce, of Plymouth Union, at the rate of \$15 per month from July 20, 1909.

There was not a great rush to the circus at White River Junction Tuesday, but the morning and evening trains carried a number of patrons of the one-ring performance. There were no sensational acts, but some of the more familiar features, like the somersaulting bareback rider—there was just one—were fairly good. And our old friend who announced the big after-concert—ten cents—whipped it up in the good old-fashioned style. "The performance is not half over—the best acts are yet to come;" and "once more and for the last time" he called attention to the after-show, with its dancers, jugglers, southern plantation singers, "baton" twirlers, etc. Half a dozen performers somersaulted over a couple of elephants—this was in the big show—and three little Japanese acrobats won tremendous applause. There were better circuses in Woodstock years ago. There were more leapers and they leaped over more elephants; the bareback riders somersaulted through hoops of fire, there was more ground and lofty tumbling, and the lemonade was a little redder in those days.

Avlin Dexter, who is quite largely interested in coal and iron mining at Birmingham, Ala., and Lucian Fiedick were in town Monday, coming by automobile from Charlestown-N. H., where Mr. Dexter has a summer home. They called on H. E. King, their cousin, and also stopped at Carlos Clifford's, where the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford was being celebrated. They returned to Charlestown Monday evening.

Mrs. R. G. Morton of Randolph recently visited her sister, Mrs. H. E. King.

Arrivals at the Inn:
Mrs. W. J. McKnight, Mrs. C. B. McKnight, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Dewart, Burlington; Mrs. H. L. Harris, Ft. Hancock, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Tucker, New Bedford, Mass.; Miss Sarah Ripley, Miss S. C. Phipps, Mrs. A. G. Wyman, Brookline, Mass.; Mrs. C. F. Harwood, Mrs. F. W. Marx, Wallingford, Conn.; Mr. and Mrs.

F. L. Noble, Gen. R. C. Hawkins, Mrs. E. E. Dickinson, E. B. Dickinson, New York; Mrs. W. T. Coggin, Boston.

Windsor county court will meet again August 25, when the case of Joseph Rivers of Windsor, who is charged with kidnapping Daisy Redmond, 15 years old, and taking her to Montreal, is set for trial.

B. H. Pinney is plastering his new cement house on High street extension, built with blocks made here last fall, and will soon bring it along towards completion. It has twelve rooms, besides bath rooms, and will make a very comfortable and desirable residence.

Home-Talent Minstrels.

The Woodstock Home-Talent Minstrels announce with characteristic enthusiasm and much printer's ink their annual entertainment for the benefit of the local base ball team. Two performances will be given, on Monday and Tuesday evenings, August 16 and 17.

The circle will have six end men, "without peers in any land;" solo artists of the highest vocal attainments, including Mr. Parker Child, tenor, of Boston; Mr. Edwin L. Howes of Washington, D. C., and Mr. C. O. Dumas of Woodstock. Among other features are banjo solos, "The Pneumatic Twins, bounding billows of magical momentum," and an "emotional force," entitled "Vail Field at All Hours, or Who Picked Up the Willows?"

A good orchestra accompanies the show.

The management assures its patrons that the entertainment "will make for the betterment and uplift of minstrelsy forever and leave in the mind only memories which will abide and bring lasting and joyful recollections, even as the sweet harmonies of nature."

Tickets, 50 and 75 cents, are on sale at Morgan's.

Arts and Crafts Club.

The second annual report of the Arts and Crafts club gives an interesting review of the work carried on the past year.

The expenses for the year were \$1155.57, and there is a balance on hand of \$152.98. The larger part of the expense of the enterprise has been met by the generous subscriptions of friends of the work.

Classes were conducted from October until June and showed an aggregate enrollment of 246, as against 153 the previous season.

The membership of Y. M. C. A.—one hundred and seven, and of K. O. K. A.—thirty, has brought the number served by the enterprise to three hundred and eighty-three, a gain of one hundred and fifty-eight over the season of 1907-8.

The classes were as follows: Mechanical drawing, Rev. C. S. Lewis, instructor; charcoal drawing, A. B. Wilder, instructor; modeling, Mr. Wilder, instructor; wood-carving, Mrs. A. B. Wilder, instructor; carpentry, George R. Winslow, instructor; metal work, Mrs. G. R. Winslow, instructor; cooking, Miss Marion D. Patterson, St. Johnsbury, instructor; choral singing, Rev. Benjamin Swift, instructor.

Near the close of the current year of the club the committee sought an expression from the community as to their thought of the value of the organization's work, and the response received was so favorable that plans are making for continuing the classes on similar lines another year.

The committee as organized for the coming season is: Chairman, Benjamin Swift; secretary, W. H. Moore; treasurer, F. S. Billings; A. B. Wilder, H. L. Canfield.

Deer Kills Young Cattle.

It is reported that a buck deer has killed two young cattle in Waterbury, a bull and heifer, both yearlings. Their owner seeks compensation from the state, but there is no provision to reimburse property owners for this unusual loss.

State Grange Picnic.

The Vermont State Grange will hold a picnic at Lake Bomoseen, 16 miles west of Rutland, August 27.

Lake Champlain's Sea Gull Colony.

There are 75,000 sea-gulls flying about New York harbor. They have been counted by the Audubon society. They are the scavengers of the waters of the metropolis. The law protects the birds, and to kill one means a fine and costs the sum of \$87.50, so that the total valuation of the 75,000 which make their temporary homes in the harbor is \$6,652,500.

Every year these gulls migrate. The old ones have regular established nesting places, where they go every year to breed. A favorite locality of the gull for this purpose is a cluster of small islands in Lake Champlain, called the Four Brothers. As the crow, or gull, flies, these islands are about eight miles southwest of Burlington, Vt., and are located off the coast of the lake at Willboro Point. They are very small, none more than three or four acres in extent, and are the property of Edward Hatch, Jr., of New York.

Mr. Hatch believes in the efficacy of the gull as a scavenger to such an extent that he protects the birds that come to his islands to hatch their young and employs wardens to guard them. The islands belong exclusively to the gulls and they have become so used to protection that the old are remarkably tame. From 500 to 1000 young gulls are reared there every summer, and all of them make their way to New York harbor, following the course of the streams tributary to the Hudson.

The gulls are of no value save as scavengers, yet for this purpose they are worth all the protection that can be given them. It has been claimed that without the gulls there would be an epidemic in the metropolis, caused by the decaying matter that floats through every sewer in the harbor and is tossed about by the tides.

There is a caretaker on each island whose duty it is to count the birds and the nests and to make as close an accounting as possible of the number reared each year. Strangers are not permitted to land on any of the islands, and the gulls seem to recognize their friends and not to fear for their safety while nesting.

"Lumber King" Killed in an Auto Accident.

George Van Dyke of Lancaster, N. H., president of the Connecticut Valley Lumber Co., and one of the best known lumbermen in New England, and his chauffeur, Frederick E. Hodgdon, of North Stratford, Vt., were fatally injured when the automobile in which they were riding plunged over a 75-foot bank into the Connecticut river at Riverside, opposite Turner's Falls, Mass., Sunday. Both died of their injuries at the Farm hospital.

Mr. Van Dyke had been watching the work of running logs down the river. They were about to return to camp when, it is thought, the chauffeur touched the wrong lever and the car started forward instead of back, plunging over the bank.

Fugitive Murderer Kills Himself.

The body of Joseph Pascal, who murdered Charles Perkins of South Walpole last week Tuesday night, was found Sunday afternoon by George Haynes. A rifle ball had been fired by Pascal through his right temple and the top of his head blown off. It is believed that the murderer killed himself on Friday, when three shots were heard, the first two as an evident warning.

The body lay in plain sight of the road and in the cemetery in which the body of Pascal's victim was buried Friday afternoon. With 75 armed men on his trail, and escape impossible, Pascal evidently watched the funeral and determined to end his life. He was not over forty rods from where his wife and several children anxiously awaited news of his capture, dead or alive.

What is claimed to be the largest yield of hay in the state was cut this year from a two acre lot owned by J. H. Irving & Co. in Bennington. Eleven tons and 1600 pounds were harvested. The grass grew nearly as high as a man's head and was very thick.

ROCK SALT.

It Reveals to Us a Place Where Once a Sea Existed.

Salt under ground! It seems a strange thing at first to find salt among the rocks deep down in the earth. What does rock salt tell us? It reveals to us a place where once a sea existed. The water has since flowed away, leaving some salt behind. We know that ordinary salt exposed to the air soon gets damp and then becomes quite fluid, but rock salt away from air and sun keeps firm for ages.

Rock salt is found in various layers of the earth's crust. Some of the spaces of underground water are called "seas," but, in fact, large as they were, they often did not resemble the "seas" we have now, because they were much shallower. A few were fairly deep, however. Then, again, these ancient seas were sometimes so salty that no animal could live in them and only a few plants.

Such seas, in fact, were mostly "dead," and this accounts for the masses of salt deposited along their bottoms. But we find also signs of rough water in the numerous pebbles of the layer where the salt is found among hard red gravel and brown quartz.

Germany once had a tolerably deep sea, not very salt, and the bottom surface of it shows coral reefs. There are signs in it of great fishes armed with strong teeth, enabling them to crush the shellfish upon which they fed.

These swarmed below the sea in thousands. North England and the midlands have the Keuper beds, where the "seas" were always shallow and where we can trace the marks of raindrop filterings and sun cracks. The rock salt is often in a layer 100 feet thick. It is supposed that one part of these seas was separated from another part by a bar of sand, over which the waves toppled only now and then.

In the cutoff sea evaporation went on through the ages, and of course a deposit of salt was formed, while the occasional overflow from outside replaced the water which had evaporated. But really this is not known for certain. It is only clear rock salt that contains the minerals we find in our present sea water—bromine, iodine and magnesium.

Generally this salt is not mixed with fragments of a different substance, but is in columns of rough crystals. Now and then there is found a layer of rock salt, with one of coral and shells under it, succeeded by rock salt again, showing that for a time a change had taken place.

Upon the land near these shallow salt seas lived some singular animals, unlike those of our earth in the later centuries of its history. There were remarkable reptiles belonging to the frog or batrachian family. One of the species was the size of a small ox, with peculiar complicated teeth and feet which left prints on the earth so exactly like the impressions of the human hand that geologists gave it a Latin name, meaning "the beast with the hand." Another strange creature was a sort of lizard with a horny bill and feet resembling those of the duck. It had somewhat the appearance of a turtle, it is supposed. Then there were some warm blooded animals about the size of a rat, which had pouches in their cheeks and preyed upon small insects. — St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Mermaids and Mermen.

The dugong, a species of whale found abundantly in the waters of both the great oceans, but especially off the coast of Australia, in the Pacific, is believed to have furnished the slender basis upon which all mermaid and mermen stories have been founded. Its general length is from eight to twenty feet. It has a head much resembling that of the human species and breathes by means of lungs. It feeds upon submarine beds of seaweeds and when wounded makes a noise like a mad bull. Long hair in the female species and hair and beard in the male add to the human resemblance of the head and neck. The flesh of this species of whale is used for food and is said to have the flavor of bacon, mutton or beef, according to the parts of the body from which the meat is taken.

"Gone to the Devil."

"Gone to the devil" has nothing satanic in its history. It has been traced to a tavern in Fleet street, London, known by the sign of the "Devil and St. Dunstan." As it supplied good food and drink, it had a large clientele and was called the "Devil" for short. "Gone to the Devil" read a notice at many an office when the occupants went to dinner. Unhappily some went there too often and stayed too long, until at last when their patrons left them "Gone to the devil" became a synonym for the neglect or the loss of their business.

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French Aviator Beats the World's Record.

Roger Sommer, the French aviator, on Saturday, at Marmelon, France, beat the world's record for a prolonged flight in an aeroplane, remaining in the air two hours, 27 minutes and 17 seconds.

His machine is a biplane. It was later announced that Sommer's time was not regarded as official.

Girl Bathers Drowned.

Two young women, Miss Olga Bjork and Miss Helen Swanson, were drowned Monday afternoon while bathing in a small pond at Proctor. One girl was taken with cramps and the other tried to save her, but was seized and dragged down.

Henry Jenkins of Coventry has his herd of ten cattle tested for tuberculosis recently and every one of the ten was condemned and killed.

HE MADE HIS KICK.

The Man Who Had Long Ago Bought an Eight Day Clock.

"You don't remember, I reckon," said the sour faced man, putting his arms on the showcase, "that I bought a clock of you twenty-five years ago?"

"I certainly do not," answered the elderly jeweler, "but I'll take your word for it if you say you did."

"Well, I did. It was twenty-five years ago last Monday."

"Remember what you paid for it?"

"Yes. I paid you \$10."

"Ever had to get it repaired?"

"No."

"It's a pretty good clock, then, isn't it?"

"Oh, yes. The clock's all right, but I've found out something about it that you didn't tell me."

"So?"

"Yes. When I bought it I asked you how often I'd have to wind it. You said once a week."

"Well?"

"Well, I've just found out that it'll go eight days without winding."

"Certainly! Most clocks are eight day clocks. That's to allow for your forgetting to wind it sometimes."

"I never forgot to wind it, sir. Regularly every Monday morning for twenty-five years I've wound that clock. That makes fifty-two times a year. If I had known it would go eight days I would have wound it on the eighth day, and I would have had to wind it only forty-six times a year. It takes me about two minutes to wind it up. I've wasted twelve minutes every year on the thing. See! In twenty-five years I've put in 300 minutes, or five hours, the half of a man's working day, standing on a chair and winding up that blamed old clock when it didn't need winding!"

"Well," said the stupefied jeweler, "what do you want to do about it?"

"Nothing, sir. I only wanted you to know it, that's all. When you sell an eight day clock to a man you ought to tell him it's an eight day clock. Good day, sir!"

Straightening himself up and pulling his hat brim down in front, he turned on his heel and stalked out of the store with the air of a man with a grudge who had freed his mind.—Chicago Tribune.

How to Learn.

"The best way to study nature is to go right up to it."

"I suppose so."

"Oh, I know it. I was once disposed to doubt the industry of the ant, of which so much is said."

"And you learned better?"

"I did. I had a controversy with a naturalist over the question, and I thought I had him beaten until he gave me a demonstration."

"Took you out and showed you the ants at work, did he?"

"Well, not exactly that, but he took me along on one of his scientific expeditions and then maliciously pitched my tent over an ant hill. By the time I discovered what was happening the conviction was forced upon me that ants are really and truly industrious. They are small, but they made me move, and some of them went right along with us to the next camping place."

—New York Times.

What's Your Pet Phrase?

Of course you have a pet phrase or expression. You are one of the few exceptions if you haven't. Very likely the very words with which this article begins—"of course"—are used by you at every turn, but you don't know it. You have a particular ejaculation which does duty in all circumstances. It may be a variation of "Great Scott!" such as "Great Scotland Yard!" or it may be "Good Grace church street!" which is a variation of "Good gracious!" You probably end most of your sentences with "you know" or "you see." Then you have a pet word which you bring in wherever you can. Perhaps it is "logical," and the number of times that word and its opposite—"illogical"—appear in your conversation is simply alarming. But you don't see it, you know.—London Answers.

Insects Have Thousands of Eyes

The eyes of insects present several peculiarities. Often in the same individual we shall find two sets of eyes, the simple and the compound, these latter having a large number of minute hexagonal facets, each of which is in reality a cornea, and the marvel is that every single facet belongs to a distinct eye, with pupil, iris, lens, all complete. The number of these corneas varies very considerably. While the ant possesses fifty only, the ordinary housefly has 4,000, butterflies have no fewer than 17,000, and some beetles rejoice in as many as 25,000.—London Chronicle.